Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—Water is not generally necessary if the monsoons had burst at proper time. I say in this year it was very necessary.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—After *Podivita* (പൊടിവിത), water is not necessary for 30 or 40 days.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—This year there was no monsoon and no rain.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—There were some sowings.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—And we lost all that. I do not know whether in these *Podivita* lands wet cultivation can be carried on.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—I saw the damage.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—You could have wet cultivation in *Podivita* lands if water is given.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—Perhaps.

Thembaramadakku system

66, **Mr. A. Eachara Menon.**—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) when was the contract for silt clearance in the Thembaramadakku irrigation system in Chittur Taluk given;

(2) when was the silt clearance to be completed;

(3) when was it completed;

(4) why was the delay, if any, in completion;

(5) when did the monsoon burst in the villages under the system;

(6) who check-measured the silt clearance;

(7) when was water diverted along the system;

(8) what were the readings at the anicut since the due date on which water should be diverted along the sytsem;

(9) were there freshes in the river after the due date of diversion of water along the system;

(10) were there any difficulty for the ryots under the system owihg to want of water by not diverting water till now (12th Mithunam 1103);

(11) who is in charge of the distribution of water in the system?

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—

(1) 19th Makaram 1103.

(2) 19th Edavam 1103.

(3) 25th Edavam 1103.

(4) Since water was wanted for eries, etc., for *Varthuvitha* purposes till the end of Meenam, there was delay in closing the system as per rules for work which necessitated the delay in completion.

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(5) No definite information is available.
(6) The Assistant Engineer.
(7) 14th Mithunam 1103.
(8) Anicut readings are not generally taken during closure periods.
(9) Yes, once.
(10) No.
(11) The Irrigation Overseer.

Loans to the Trichur and Ernakulam Municipalities]

67. Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—(1) what was the amount lent to the Trichur Municipality and on what terms;
(2) has the Municipality repaid the amount;
(3) if not the whole, how much was paid back;
(4) what about the balance;
(5) for what purpose was the amount lent;
(6) how far was it carried out;
(7) whether there is any truth in the statement appearing in the papers that the Government have lent or are under contemplation to lend Rs. 50,000 to the Ernakulam Municipality?

Mr. K. Krishna Pisharodi.—(1) Advances and loans outstanding are:—

(a) An advance of Rs. 15,000 in 1097 for disbursement to parties for tiling houses. This was repayable in 6 annual instalments—interest on the loan being 2 per cent payable annually.

(b) A loan of Rs. 42,128-0-8 for general works of Town Improvement repayable in 20 years the rate of interest being 5 per cent payable half-yearly.

(2) Not fully.
(3) Out of the first a sum of Rs. 13,495 has been paid and a sum of Rs. 14,512-0-8 towards the second.
(4) It has to be repaid.
(5) The advance was for tiling houses and the loan was for general Town Improvement.
(6) Fully carried out.
(7) Yes. A loan of Rs. 50,000 has been sanctioned to the Ernakulam Municipality.

Late Salt Contractor Mr. Arunachalam Chettiar.

68. Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Will the Government be pleased to state whether orders were passed on the petitions of Mr. Arunachalam Chettiar, the late salt contractor of the State, submitted to the Government on (1) 5th Makaram 1100, (2) 1st Dhanu 1100, (3) 10th Medam 1100 and (4) 29th Karkadagam

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